

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 186926  
ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 EA-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 SIG-03  
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00  
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00  
ARA-10 /107 R

DRAFTED BY IO/ML:MJACOBS:SC  
APPROVED BY IO:GBHELMAN  
IO/ML:PWKRIEBEL  
IO/UNP:TNILES  
ARA/RPP:SQUIGG  
EUR/EE:DJOHNSON

-----042399 250031Z /14

O R 242353Z JUL 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE  
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 186926

FOR AMBASSADOR AND GRAHAM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PORO

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: PUERTO RICO AT THE  
NON-ALIGNED FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING

1. A PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT TO THE PEOPLE OF  
PUERTO RICO, TO BE ISSUED JULY 25, RE-EMPHASIZES THE  
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ADMINISTRATION'S COMMITMENT TO THE PRINCIPLE OF SELF-  
DETERMINATION FOR PUERTO RICO AND TO SUPPORT WITH  
THE CONGRESS WHATEVER POLITICAL STATUS THE PEOPLE  
OF PUERTO RICO WISH -- STATEHOOD, INDEPENDENCE, COMMON-  
WEALTH OR MUTUALLY-AGREED MODIFICATIONS THEREOF. AS  
SUCH, IT SHOULD BE HELPFUL TO US AT THE FOREIGN  
MINISTERS MEETING IN IMPROVING THE ATMOSPHERE

OF THE PUERTO RICAN DEBATE AND,PERHAPS, INCREASING  
THE NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS TO THE TRADITIONAL  
NON-ALIGNED LANGUAGE ON PUERTO RICO. REALISTICALLY,  
WE WOULD NOT EXPECT TO BE ABLE TO CHANGE THE  
LANGUAGE ITSELF.

2. DEPARTMENT SUGGESTS THAT THE AMBASSADOR AND  
USUN LIAISON OFFICER GRAHAM DISCUSS THE TEXT  
WITH THE YUGOSLAVS, INDIANS AND  
OTHERS THEY BELIEVE TO BE SYMPATHETIC (INCLUDING

THOSE WHO LODGED RESERVATIONS AT HAVANA: BOTSWANA,  
INDONESIA, ZAIRE AND LIBERIA), DRAWING ON THE  
TALKING POINTS WHICH EMBASSY ALREADY HAS, AS  
DEEMED APPROPRIATE.

3. TEXT WHICH YOU MAY USE,  
IS AS FOLLOWS:

BEGIN QUOTE  
TO THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO:

TODAY MARKS PUERTO RICO'S EIGHTIETH YEAR UNDER  
THE AMERICAN FLAG, AND THE TWENTY-SIXTH ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE FOUNDING OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO,  
A FORM OF GOVERNMENT FREELY AND DEMOCRATICALLY  
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ADOPTED BY THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO. SINCE 1898  
AND AS AMERICAN CITIZENS SINCE 1917, YOU HAVE MADE  
A RICH CONTRIBUTION TO THE LIFE OF THE UNITED  
STATES, WHILE PRESERVING YOUR OWN UNIQUE CULTURE  
AND TRADITIONS WITHIN THE BROADER COMMUNITY.

AS YOU COMMEMORATE THIS ANNIVERSARY, I WOULD LIKE  
TO EMPHASIZE THAT THE UNITED STATES REMAINS FULLY  
COMMITTED TO THE PRINCIPLE OF SELF-DETERMINATION  
FOR THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO. PRESIDENT  
EISENHOWER MADE THAT COMMITMENT IN 1953, AND  
THIS HAS BEEN THE POSITION OF ALL U.S. ADMINISTRATIONS  
SINCE THAT TIME. WE CONTINUE TO REGARD IT AS THE  
FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE IN DECIDING PUERTO RICO'S  
FUTURE.

MY ADMINISTRATION WILL RESPECT THE WISHES OF THE  
PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO AND YOUR RIGHT TO SELF-  
DETERMINATION. WHATEVER DECISION THE PEOPLE OF  
PUERTO RICO MAY WISH TO TAKE -- STATEHOOD,  
INDEPENDENCE, COMMONWEALTH STATUS OR MUTUALLY-  
AGREED MODIFICATIONS IN THAT STATUS -- IT WILL

BE YOURS, REACHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH YOUR OWN  
TRADITIONS, DEMOCRATICALLY AND PEACEFULLY.

GOVERNOR ROMERO BARCELO HAS CALLED FOR A  
REFERENDUM AFTER THE 1980 ELECTIONS IN PUERTO RICO  
TO DECIDE PUERTO RICO'S FUTURE STATUS. SHOULD  
THE GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO DECIDE TO HOLD A  
REFERENDUM, I WILL SUPPORT, AND URGE THE CONGRESS  
TO SUPPORT, WHATEVER DECISION THE PEOPLE OF  
PUERTO RICO REACH.

THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES ARE PROUD OF OUR  
CULTURAL AND POLITICAL ASSOCIATIONS WITH  
PUERTO RICO OVER THE LAST 80 YEARS. WE KNOW THAT  
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WE CAN BEST HONOR OUR FRIENDSHIP, AND OUR OWN  
DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES, BY RESPECTING YOUR FREE  
CHOICE ABOUT YOUR OWN FUTURE.

END QUOTE.

VANCE

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PAGE 01 STATE 186926  
ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /015 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:IO/ML:PWKRIEBEL

APPROVED BY:IO/SA:EMICHAL

-----112788 280325Z /66

R 272300Z JUL 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 186926

FOR AMBASSADOR LEONARD

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 186926 ACTION BELGRADE  
INFO GABORONE JAKARTA KINSHASA MONROVIA NEW DELHI USUN NY  
JUL 24. ALSO REPEATED INFO PORT OF SPAIN TEL AVIV JUL 26.

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 186926

FOR AMBASSADOR AND GRAHAM

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TAGS:PORC

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END QUOTE.  
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VANCE

UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
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**TAGS:** PORG, RQ  
**To:** BELGRADE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014